

RESPONSE

Claims Status

Claims 1-34 were originally filed in this application. In an Office Action dated July 18, 2005, claims 1-34 were rejected. In response, Applicants filed an Amendment and Response on December 16, 2005, in which claims 1, 28, 11, 17, 18, 24, 27, 29, 33 and 34 were cancelled, claims 3-7, 9, 10, 12-16, 19-23, 25, 26, 28, 30 and 31 were been amended, and claims 35-42 were added. A final Office Action was issued on February 15, 2006, citing new art and rejecting all pending claims. In response, Applicants amended claims 3, 9, 10, 14, 19, 25, 26, 28, 30, 36 and 42, and a Request for Continued Examination was filed on June 8, 2006. A subsequent Office Action issued on August 10, 2006. In response, Applicants amended claims 35, 38, 39 and 40. An Office Action was then issued on January 22, 2007. Applicants hereby submit this amendment and response to address the outstanding objections and rejections. No new matter has been added.

Claim Objections

In the current Action, claim 35 was objected to under 35 U.S.C. §112 due to a minor informality which has been addressed in the amendments listed above, and therefore respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

Claim Rejections

In the current Action, claims 3-7, 9-10, 12-16, 19-23, 25-26, 28, 30-32 and 35-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicants thank the Examiner for his favorable review and consideration of the previously submitted amendments, and respectfully submit that the claim amendments submitted above overcome these rejections, and as such the claims are now in condition for allowance.

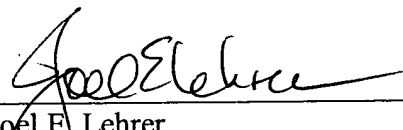
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the application and claims in light of this Amendment and Response, and submit that all currently pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes in his review of this Amendment and Response that a telephonic interview would expedite the favorable prosecution of the present application, the Applicants' attorney would welcome the opportunity to discuss any outstanding issues, and to work with the Examiner toward placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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